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DOOM

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THE COMING OF

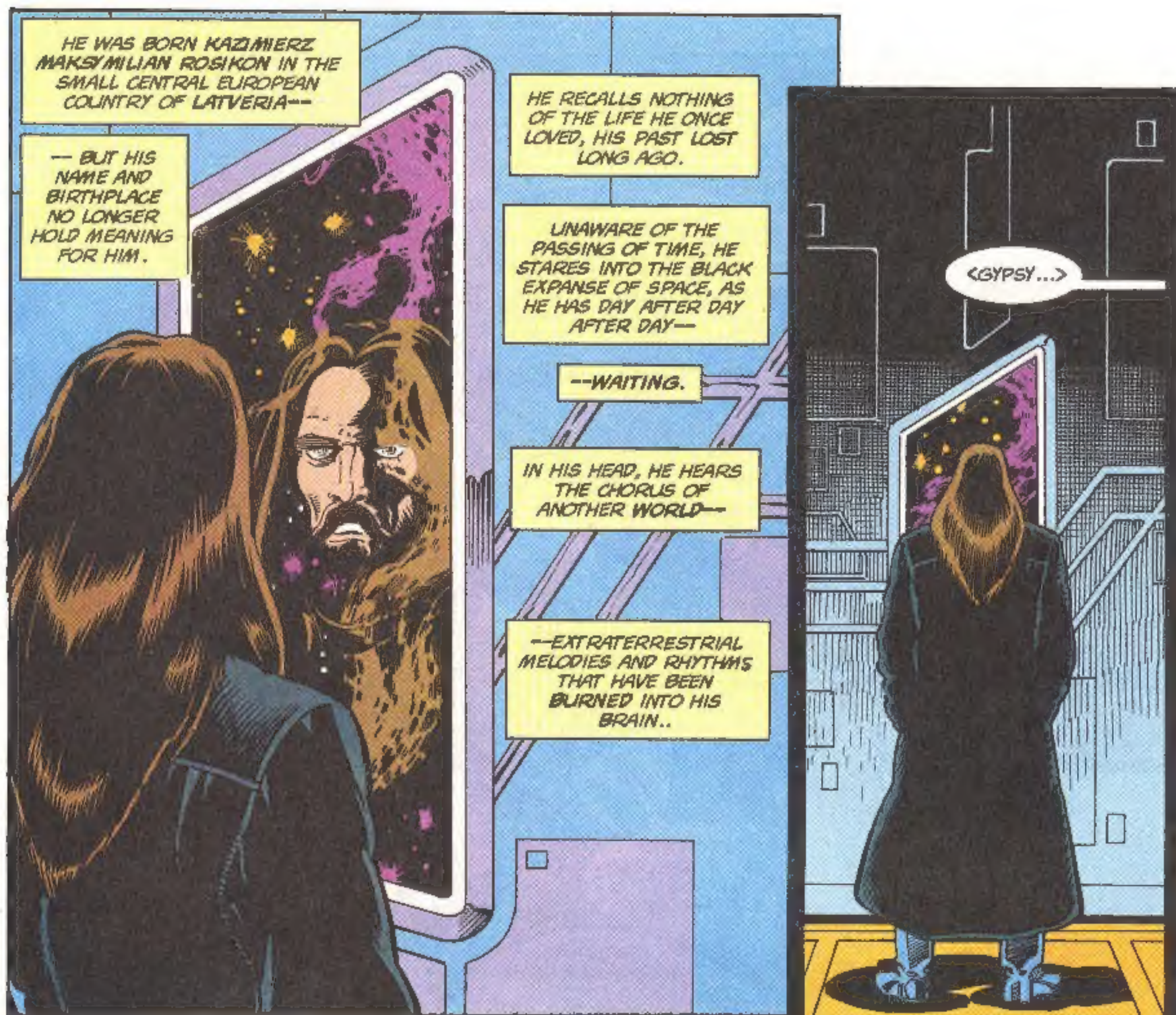
RAIDIAN

DIRECT EDITION

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HE WAS BORN KAZIMIERZ
MAKSYMILIAN ROSIKON IN THE
SMALL CENTRAL EUROPEAN
COUNTRY OF LATVERIA--

-- BUT HIS
NAME AND
BIRTHPLACE
NO LONGER
HOLD MEANING
FOR HIM.

HE RECALLS NOTHING
OF THE LIFE HE ONCE
LOVED, HIS PAST LOST
LONG AGO.

UNAWARE OF THE
PASSING OF TIME, HE
STARES INTO THE BLACK
EXPANSE OF SPACE, AS
HE HAS DAY AFTER DAY
AFTER DAY--

--WAITING.

IN HIS HEAD, HE HEARS
THE CHORUS OF
ANOTHER WORLD--

--EXTRATERRESTRIAL
MELODIES AND RHYTHMS
THAT HAVE BEEN
BURNED INTO HIS
BRAIN..

<GYPSY...>



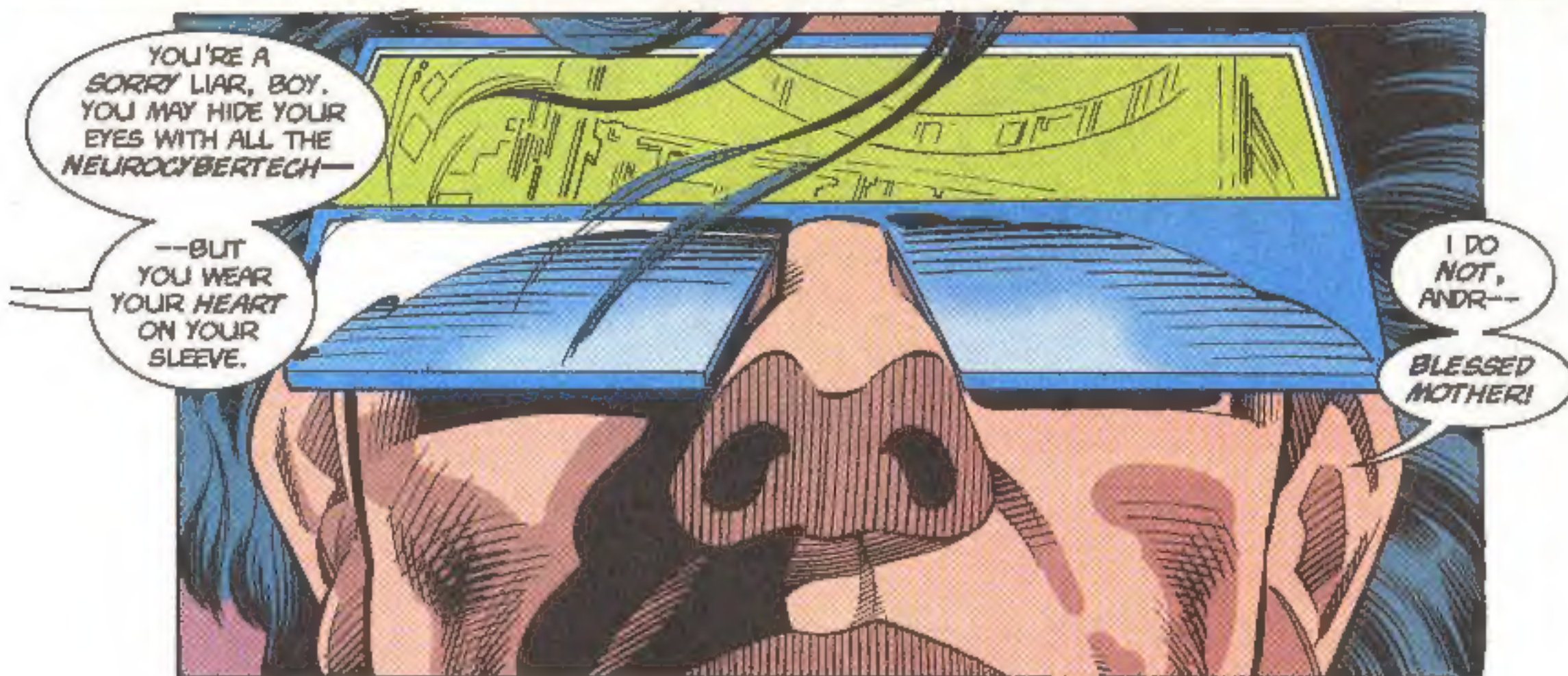
<...MY
ASTROPHYSICISTS
ASSURE ME THAT
CONTACT IS IMMINENT...

<...BUT,
PERHAPS, YOU ARE
ALREADY AWARE OF
THAT.>

HE IS OBLIVIOUS TO THE
WORDS OF THIS WOMAN,
HIS CAPTOR IN THIS
FOREIGN PLACE.

ALL THAT MATTERS IS
THAT SOON HE WILL
FULFILL THE TASK FOR
WHICH HE HAS BEEN
RESURRECTED.

SOON.



STAN LEE PRESENTS:

Heaven's Net

BROUGHT TO
YOU BY
FOREIGN
CORRESPONDENTS

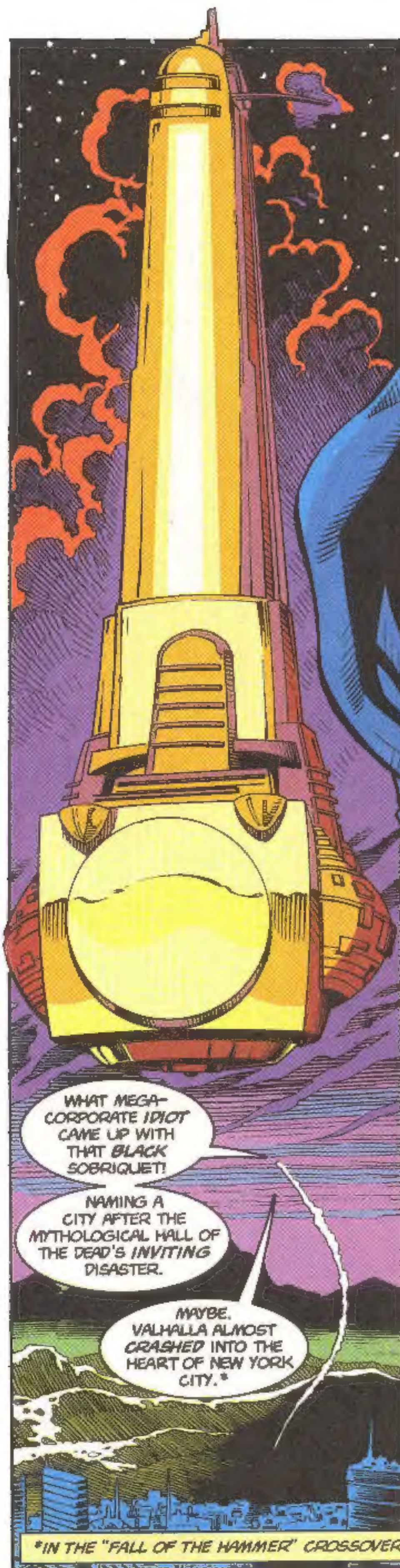
JOHN MOORE
PAT BRODERICK
JOHN NYBERG
JOHN COSTANZA
GEORGE ROUSSOS
JOEY CAVALIERI
and
TOM DEFALCO
BORDER GUARD

IT'S
LINGODLY HUGE!
WHATEVER
IT IS...

DON'T YOU
EVER PLUG INTO
THE INTERNATIONAL
INFONETS?

THIS IS
ALCHEMAX'S
AERIAL
COLONY--

--VALHALLA!



WHAT MEGA-CORPORATE IDIOT CAME UP WITH THAT **BLACK SOBRIGUET**!

NAMING A CITY AFTER THE MYTHOLOGICAL HALL OF THE DEAD'S INVITING DISASTER.

MAYBE, VALHALLA ALMOST CRASHED INTO THE HEART OF NEW YORK CITY.*

*IN THE "FALL OF THE HAMMER" CROSSOVER.



AND NOW IT'S IN GOGRADIA?

THIS HAS GOT TO BE ONE OF DOOM'S MAD SCHEMES. HE'S FINALLY LOST HIS SENSES INSIDE THAT ADAMANTIUM ARMOR.

DOOM'S NOT CRAZY, HE'S **BRILLIANT**! HE REAPPEARED AFTER DECADES TO RECLAIM LATVERIA.

AND HE'S ZEFIRO. HE'S ONE OF US!

YOU'RE TOO TRUSTING, WIRE. DOOM CONCEALS MORE THAN A SCARRED FACE BEHIND THAT MASK.

WELCOME, MY ZEFIRO BRETHREN, TO VALHALLA, NEWEST PROVINCE OF LATVERIA.

NOW I'M GENUINELY WORRIED. HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD.

WHAT A SCORE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SNAKED VALHALLA FROM ALCHEMAX!

ALCHEMAX CHOSE TO ABANDON THEIR FLOATING CITY---

--ASSUMING THAT THE ANTIGRAVITY TECHNOLOGY WAS IRREPARABLY AND DANGEROUSLY FLAWED.

IN FACT, THEY WERE QUITE PREPARED TO LET VALHALLA FALL ON NEW YORK, NO MATTER THE COST IN LIVES AND PROPERTY.

WITH SOME EFFORT, I MODIFIED THE SHIP'S REACTORS, PREVENTING SUCH A CATASTROPHE--

-- AS WELL AS ENDING THE ATMOSPHERIC TURBULENCE ITS SYSTEMS WERE CAUSING.

THE INFONETS SAID THOR HAD RETURNED AND CLAIMED VALHALLA FOR THE NEW AESIR!



ALCHEMAX
CREATED A PANTHEON OF
FALSE ASGARDIANS TO
MANIPULATE THE PUBLIC'S
DESPERATE NEED FOR GODS
AND HEROES.

WITH THE AID
OF THE CURRENT
VARIATION ON THE
COSTUMED HEROES
OF THE LAST
CENTURY--

-- THE AESIR
WERE DEFEATED AND
REVEALED TO BE
MERELY A CORPORATE
FABRICATION.

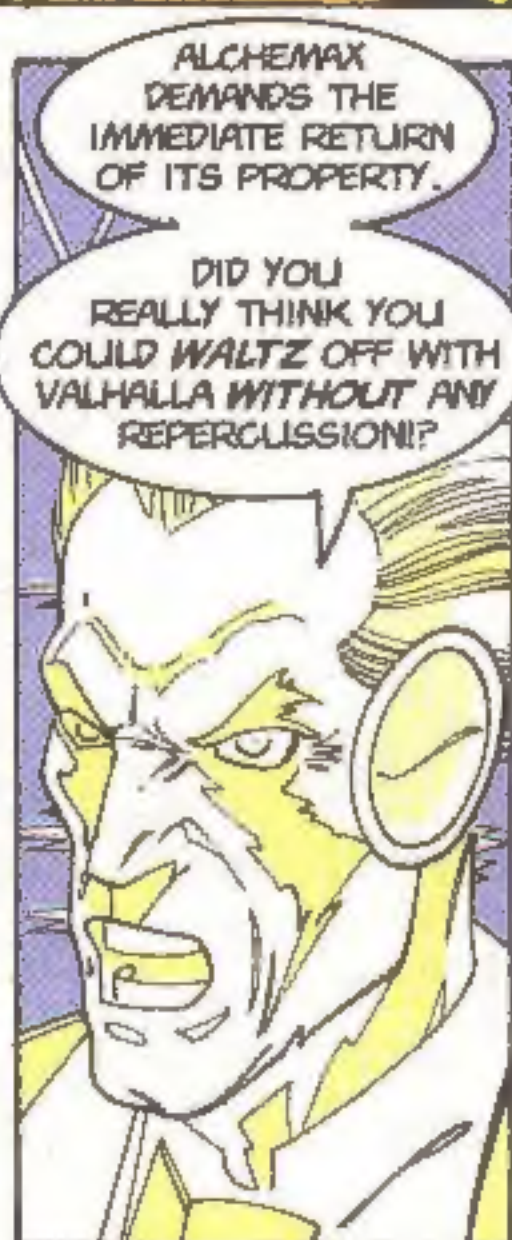
AND I
MISSED IT?
I NEVER GET
TO GO
ANYWHERE.



VICTOR VON
DOOM. YOU HAVE
MADE A GRAVE
ERROR!

TYLER
STONE? I HAVE
BEEN ANTICIPATING
COMMUNICATION
FROM ALCHEMAX.

*FROM ALMOST EVERY SHOCKIN'
ISSUE OF SPIDER-MAN 2099-- JOEY



ALCHEMAX
DEMANDS THE
IMMEDIATE RETURN
OF ITS PROPERTY.

DID YOU
REALLY THINK YOU
COULD WALTZ OFF WITH
VALHALLA WITHOUT ANY
REPERCUSSION?



WITHOUT *MY* INTERVENTION,
VALHALLA WOULD HAVE
DESTROYED MOST OF
MANHATTAN.

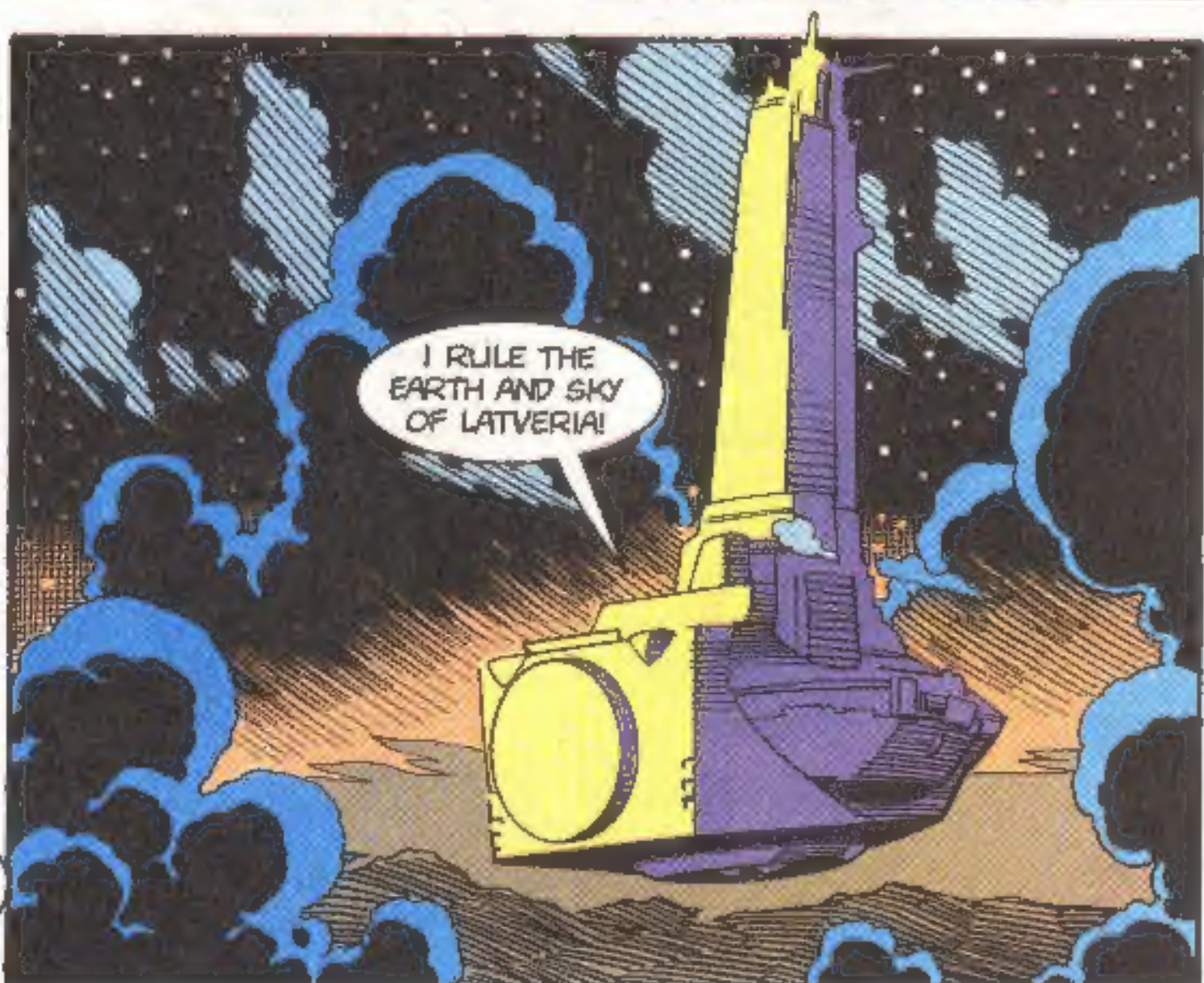
ATTEMPT
TO RECLAIM IT
AT YOUR OWN
RISK.



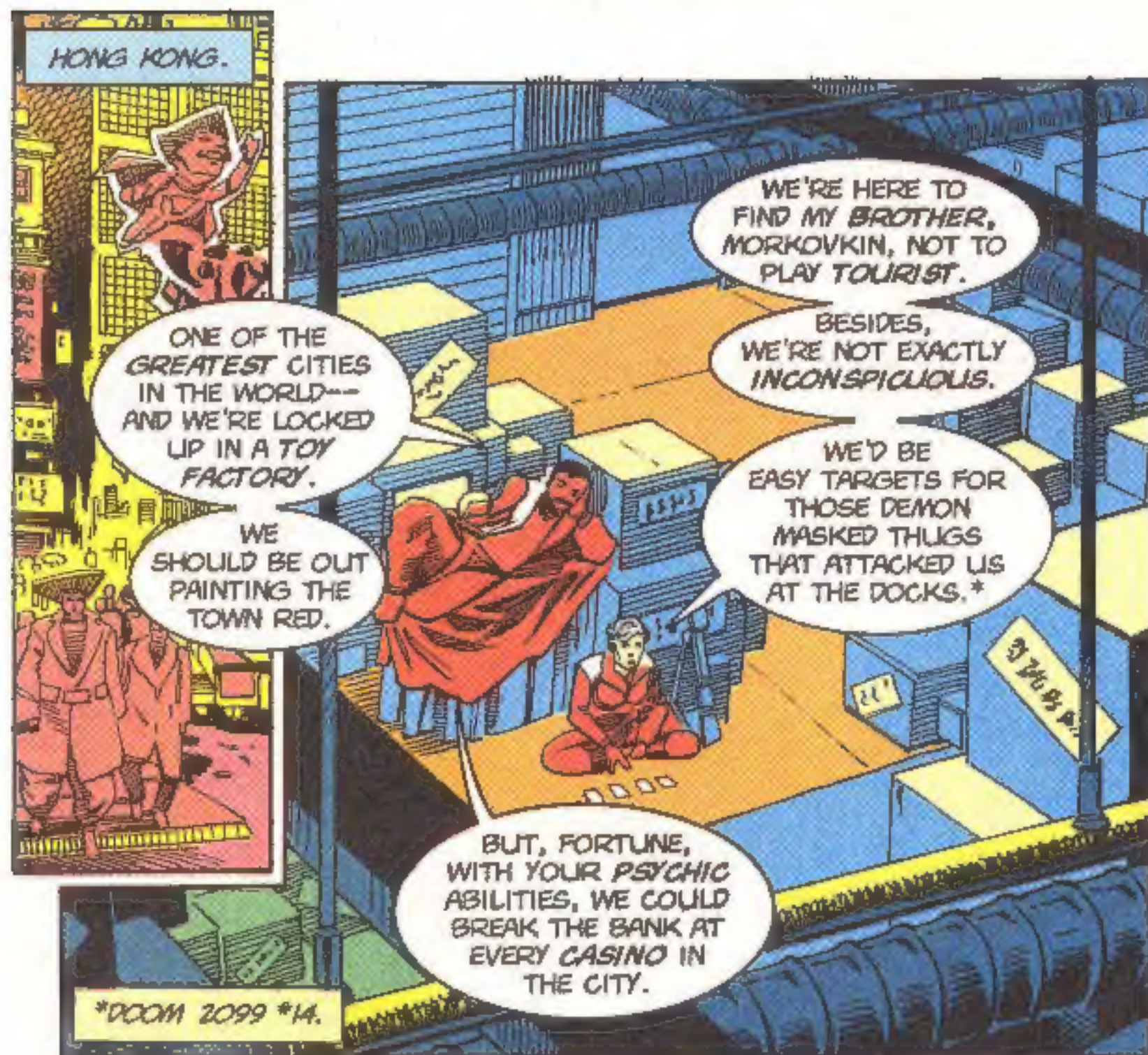
YOUR COUNTRY
DOESN'T HAVE THE
RESOURCES TO TAKE
ON ALCHEMAX
INTERNATIONAL.

IF YOUR
COMPANY COULD NOT
WREST LATVERIA FROM
TIGER WYLDE--

-- WHAT
HOPE HAVE YOU
AGAINST ME?



I RULE THE
EARTH AND SKY
OF LATVERIA!



HONG KONG.

ONE OF THE GREATEST CITIES IN THE WORLD-- AND WE'RE LOCKED UP IN A TOY FACTORY.

WE SHOULD BE OUT PAINTING THE TOWN RED.

WE'RE HERE TO FIND MY BROTHER, MORKOVKIN, NOT TO PLAY TOURIST.

BESIDES, WE'RE NOT EXACTLY INCONSPICUOUS.

WE'D BE EASY TARGETS FOR THOSE DEMON MASKED THUGS THAT ATTACKED US AT THE DOCKS.*

BUT, FORTUNE, WITH YOUR PSYCHIC ABILITIES, WE COULD BREAK THE BANK AT EVERY CASINO IN THE CITY.

*DOOM 2099 #14.



MY GIFT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY. WHATEVER PRECOG TALENT I HAVE IS FOCUSED THROUGH THE TAROT.

RIGHT NOW, ALL I KNOW IS THAT WE'RE IN BAD SHAPE.

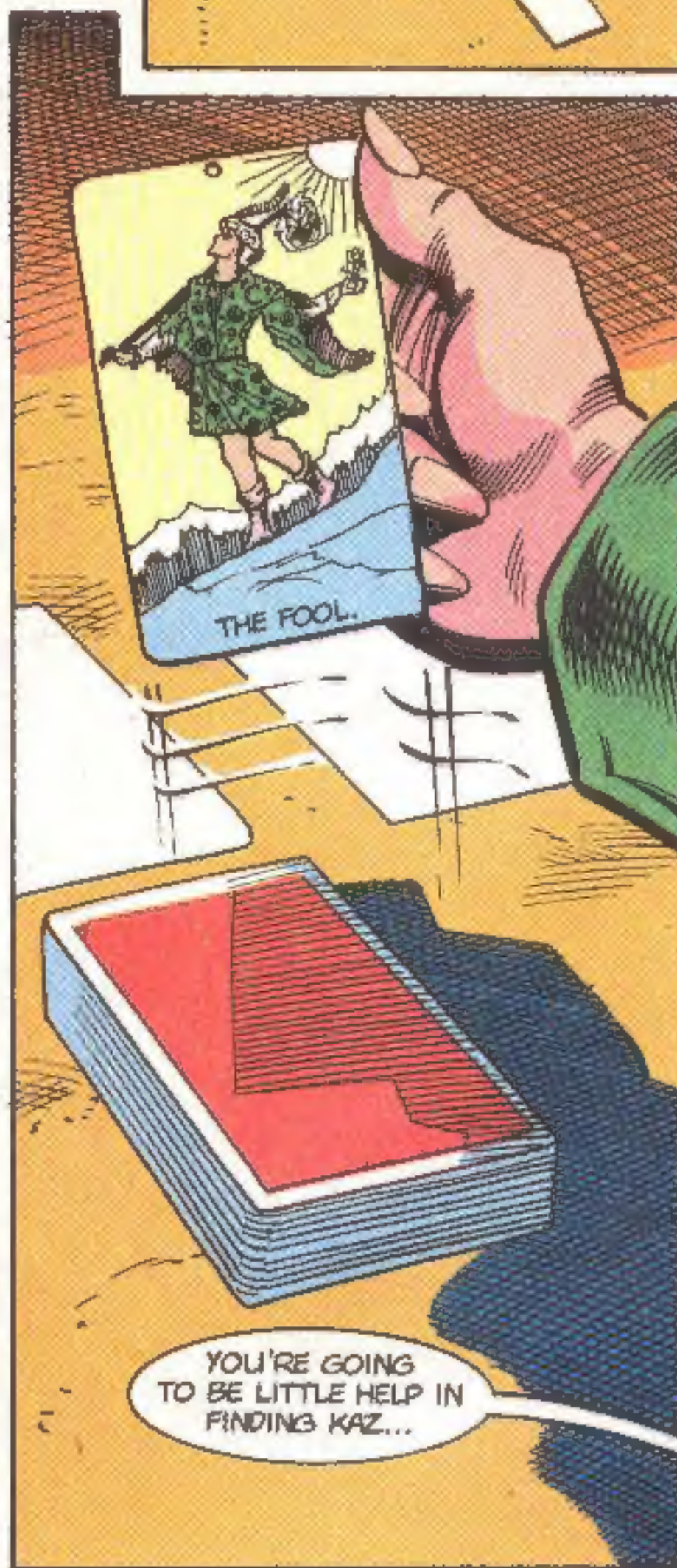
I KEEP TURNING OVER THE TOWER, A SIGN OF UNEXPECTED AND DANGEROUS THINGS TO COME.



WHAT DO YOUR CARDS TELL YOU ABOUT VYTAI MORKOVKIN, DASHING PILOT AND TOAST OF MOSCOW'S RED SQUARE?

DO THEY SPEAK OF THE PASSION WHICH YOU TRY UNSUCCESSFULLY TO HIDE FROM THIS POOR RUSSIAN PEASANT?

I DON'T NEED THE CARDS TO TELL ME THE OBVIOUS.



YOU'RE GOING TO BE LITTLE HELP IN FINDING KAZ...



FORGIVE ME, I
FIND CONVERSATION
DIFFICULT, AND PREFER
TO LET MY ACTIONS
SPEAK FOR ME.

BUT THAT
IS NO EXCUSE.
YOU DESERVE AN
EXPLANATION.

FIVE YEARS AGO,
SEISMIC ACTIVITY IN THE
HIMALAYAS UNEARTHED A
LARGE METALLIC SPHERE OF
UNKNOWN ORIGIN.

AN ON-SITE
RESEARCH TEAM
DETERMINED THAT THE
SPHERE HAD BEEN BURIED
BENEATH THE SNOW FOR
CENTURIES.

GAINING ENTRY
INTO THE SPHERE, THE
SCIENTISTS FOUND
EVIDENCE OF AN
INCOMPREHENSIBLE
ALIEN TECHNOLOGY.

THEY ALSO FOUND
YOUR BROTHER, HELD
IN METABOLIC STASIS
BY THE SPHERE'S
SYSTEMS.

WHEN THEY
REVIVED YOUR
BROTHER, HE SPOKE
IN AN ALIEN TONGUE,
UNRECOGNIZABLE TO
LINGUISTS.

BY SAVING
YOUR BROTHER'S
LIFE, THE SPHERE HAD
TURNED HIM INTO A
ROSETTA STONE...

...THE KEY TO
A CIVILIZATION, THE
SCIENTISTS DETERMINED,
PREPARING TO MAKE FIRST
CONTACT WITH
EARTH.

KAZ BECAME
A COMMODITY FOUGHT
OVER BY THE MERCANTILE
HOUSES OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC--

-- AND WON BY
FENG HUANG, THE RED
PHOENIX OF THE SOUTH, THE
UPSTART WHOSE ECONOMIC
MANEUVERS HAVE
CHALLENGED THE RULING
CADRES.

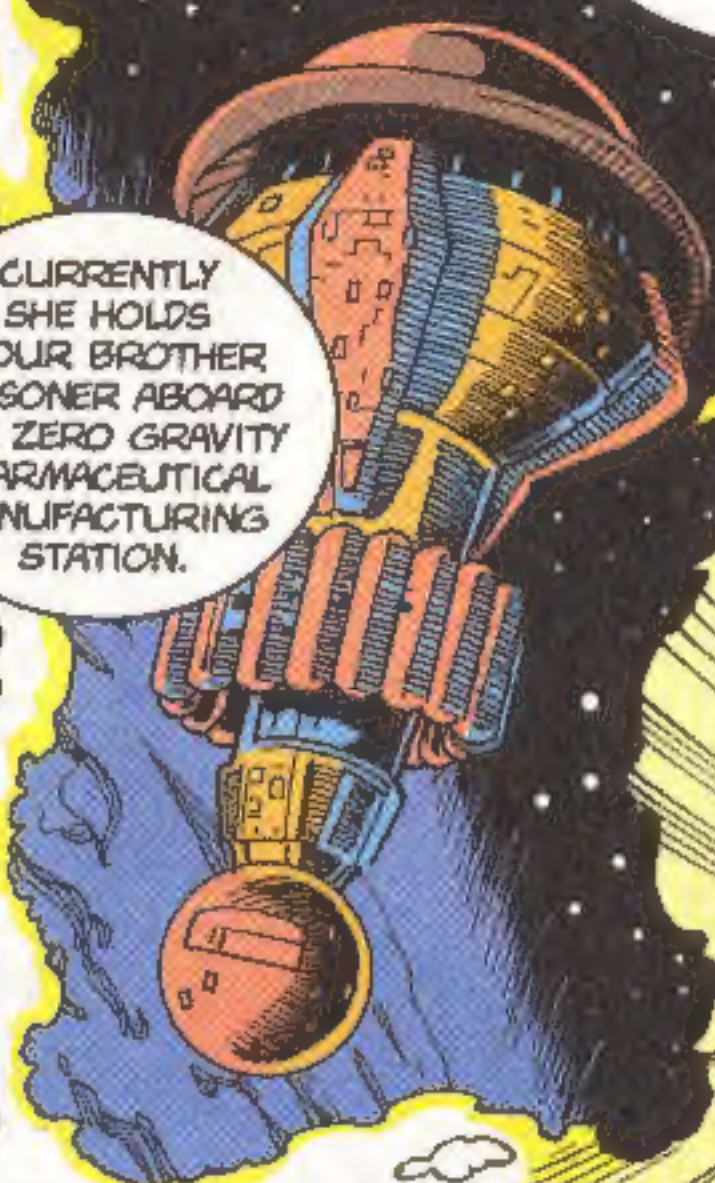
CURRENTLY
SHE HOLDS
YOUR BROTHER
PRISONER ABOARD
HER ZERO GRAVITY
PHARMACEUTICAL
MANUFACTURING
STATION.

HE'S VERY
SICK, BUT, IN ONE OF
HIS RARE MOMENTS OF
LUCIDITY, HE TOLD ME
ABOUT YOU.

I FEAR FENG
HUANG WILL QUICKLY
DISCARD HIM ONCE
HIS USEFULNESS HAS
ENDED.

AND
HOW DO
YOU KNOW
ALL THIS?

I USED
TO LEAD FENG
HUANG'S
DEMONS.



HONG KONG'S CENTRAL DISTRICT, BUSTLING HEART OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL NETWORK.

WHEN HONG KONG WAS RETURNED TO THE PRC, THE LEADERS NAMED THE ISLAND A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—

— ALLOWING CONTINUED COMMERCE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD

WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU.

THE LIN ZEXU GALLERY OFF OF QUEEN'S ROAD OFFERS AESTHETIC RARITIES TO WEALTHY BUYERS—

— BUT TO A MORE EXCLUSIVE CLIENTELE, THE GALLERY BROKERS INFORMATION.

YOU'VE NO NEED FOR FURTHER PRETENSE.

THE HOLOGRAPHIC ENHANCEMENT SYSTEM YOU USE TO DISGUISE YOURSELF WAS DETECTED BY OUR SENSORS THE MOMENT YOU ENTERED THE GALLERY—

— MISTER POET.

YOUR SECURITY'S IMPROVED SINCE THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE.

I BEG YOUR PARDON. I DON'T FOLLOW.

YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE LATVERIAN WOMAN, CORRECT?

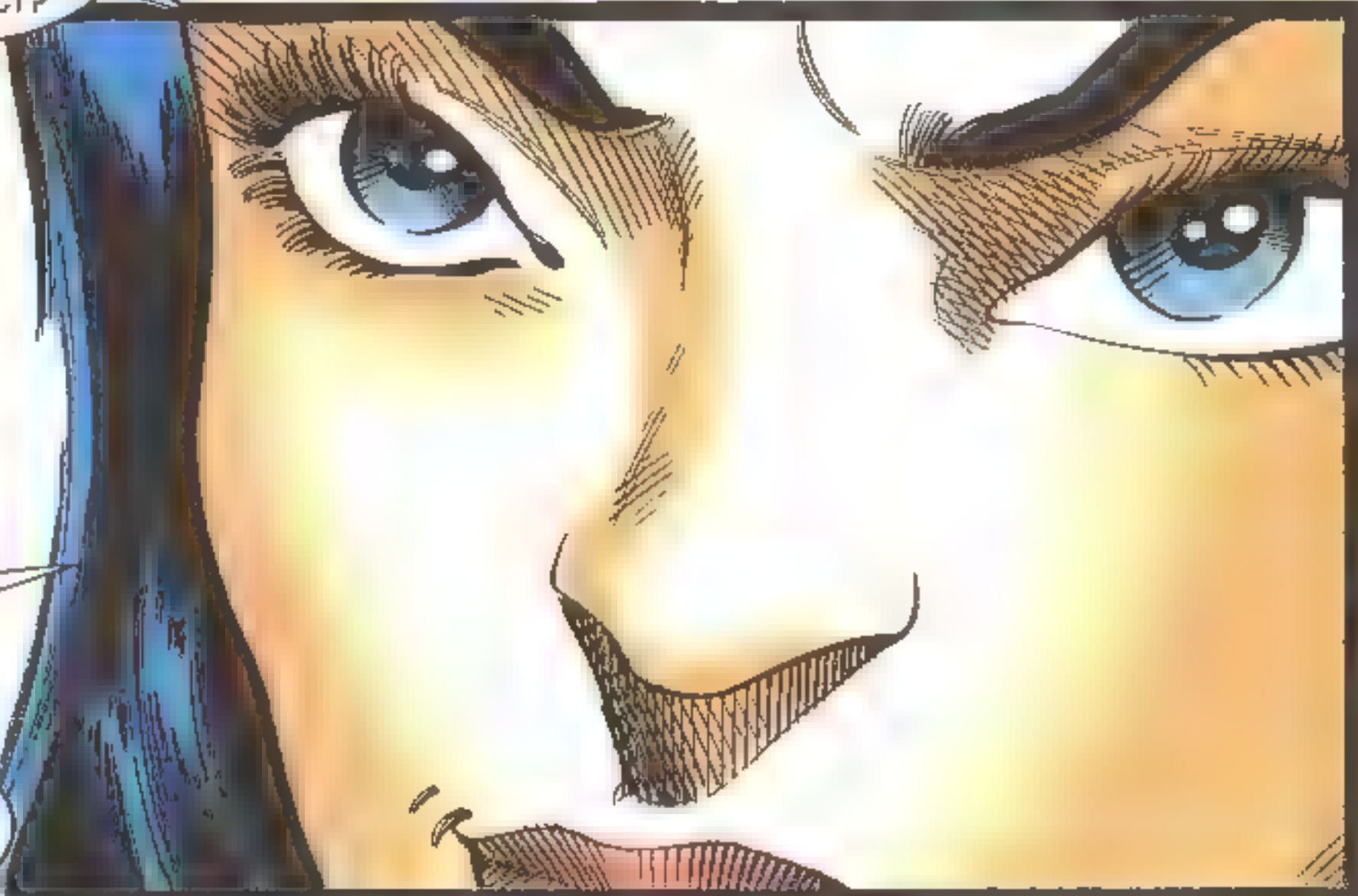
I'M IMPRESSED. WHILE I KNOW THE GALLERY'S THOROUGH IN ITS DATA GATHERING...

... I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS PRESCIENT.

THE NEON ANGEL ALERTED US TO YOUR ARRIVAL

WHILE SHE EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE AT YOUR PRESENCE IN CHINA—

— SHE REQUESTED WE ALLOW YOU FULL USE OF OUR RESOURCES TO TRACK THIS GYPSY DOWN.



LATVERIA.

IT'S
LIKE A GHOST
SHIP.

BUT THE
ACOUSTICS IN THE
ENGINE ROOM ARE
PHENOMENAL.

OOOO
SCARY.

NOBODY
HERE. NOT
EVEN
RATS

WIRE,
THERE IS A
GAMEROOM ON THE
FIFTH DECK WHERE
YOU MAY OCCUPY
YOURSELF.

STRICTLY
FLATLINE KIDSTUFF.
I CHECKED.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

TRYING TO DETERMINE
WHAT BECAME OF THE SHI'AR
STARGATE THAT ONCE ALLOWED
INTERSTELLAR ACCESS TO OUR
SOLAR SYSTEM.

THERE ARE ALSO NO
TRACES OF A SKRULL
SATELLITE AND A XANDARAN
OUTPOST. THOSE RACES USED
TO MONITOR EARTH.

IN YOUR
ADMITTEDLY SHORT
LIFETIME, WIRE, HAVE YOU
BEEN AWARE OF ANY
ALIEN PRESENCE?

NO. I MET A GLIDER
ONCE WHO CLAIMED GALACTUS
WAS A HOAX PERPETRATED BY AN
AMERICAN CORPORATION.

NO, THAT
CELESTIAL WAS NO
SHADOW CABINET'S
CREATION

I WONDER
WHY, AFTER THE LAST
CENTURY'S CONTINUAL
EXTRATERRESTRIAL
INTERFERENCE--

-- THERE
IS ONLY ONE
DEEP SPACE SIGNAL
DIRECTED AT
EARTH.

-- AND
ONLY TWO
LONE SIGNALS
ANSWERING FROM
THIS PLANET

IT IS AS
IF EARTH HAS BEEN
ABANDONED BY THE
INTERSTELLAR
EMPIRES.

KANCHENJUNGA, NEPAL.

TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, A SNOW CRUISER SPEEDS THROUGH BEAUTIFUL AND IMPOSING TERRAIN.

I WAS UNABLE TO TRANSLATE THE DEEP SPACE SIGNAL.

OF THE TRANSMISSION POINTS RESPONDING TO THAT SIGNAL, ONE ORIGINATED FROM A COMMERCIAL SPACE PLATFORM.

THE SECOND, MUCH LESS APPARENT TO DETECTION, WAS BROADCAST FROM THIS ELEVATION.

I MUST DISCOVER THE INTENTION OF THIS NEW ALIEN RACE; THEN, MANIPULATE IT TO MY ENDS--

-- AS I ONCE DID THE OVOID RACE.

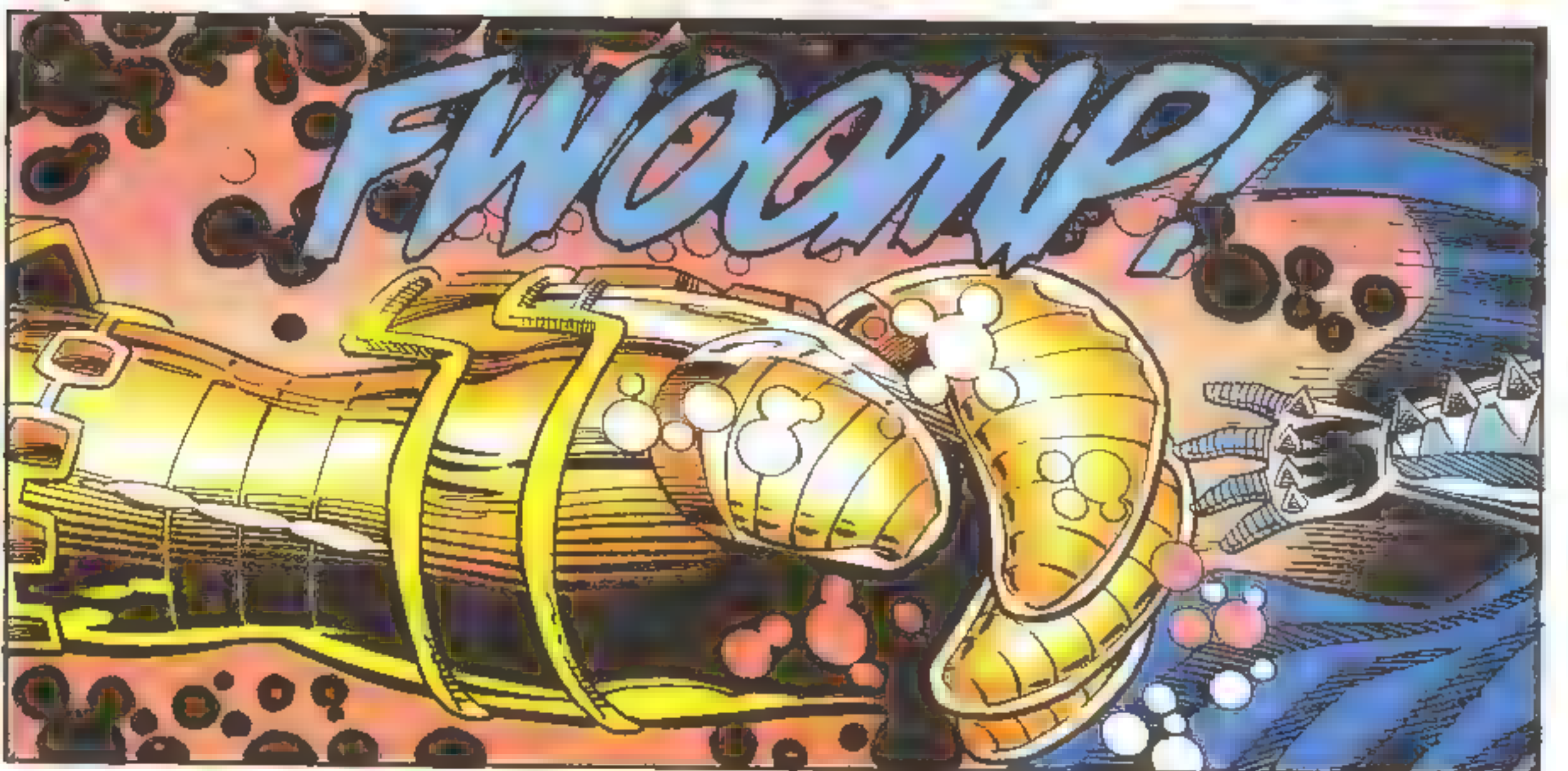
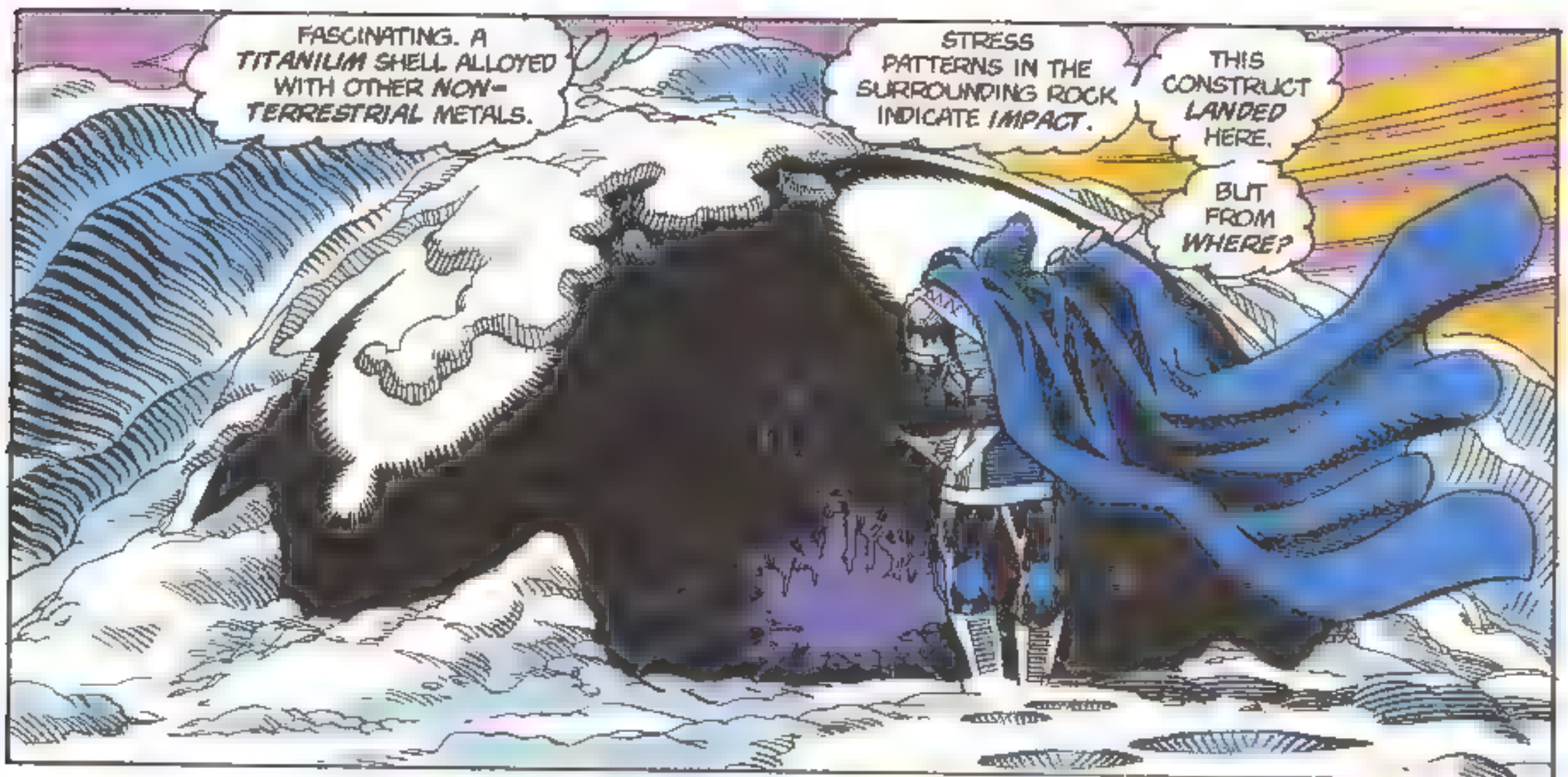
THE SIGNAL EMANATES FROM THIS LOCATION, BUT THERE IS NOTHING BUT SNOW AND EARTH.

SO I WILL HAVE TO PRY BELOW THE SURFACE--

PING
PING
PING

-- TO LEARN WHAT HIDES BENEATH.

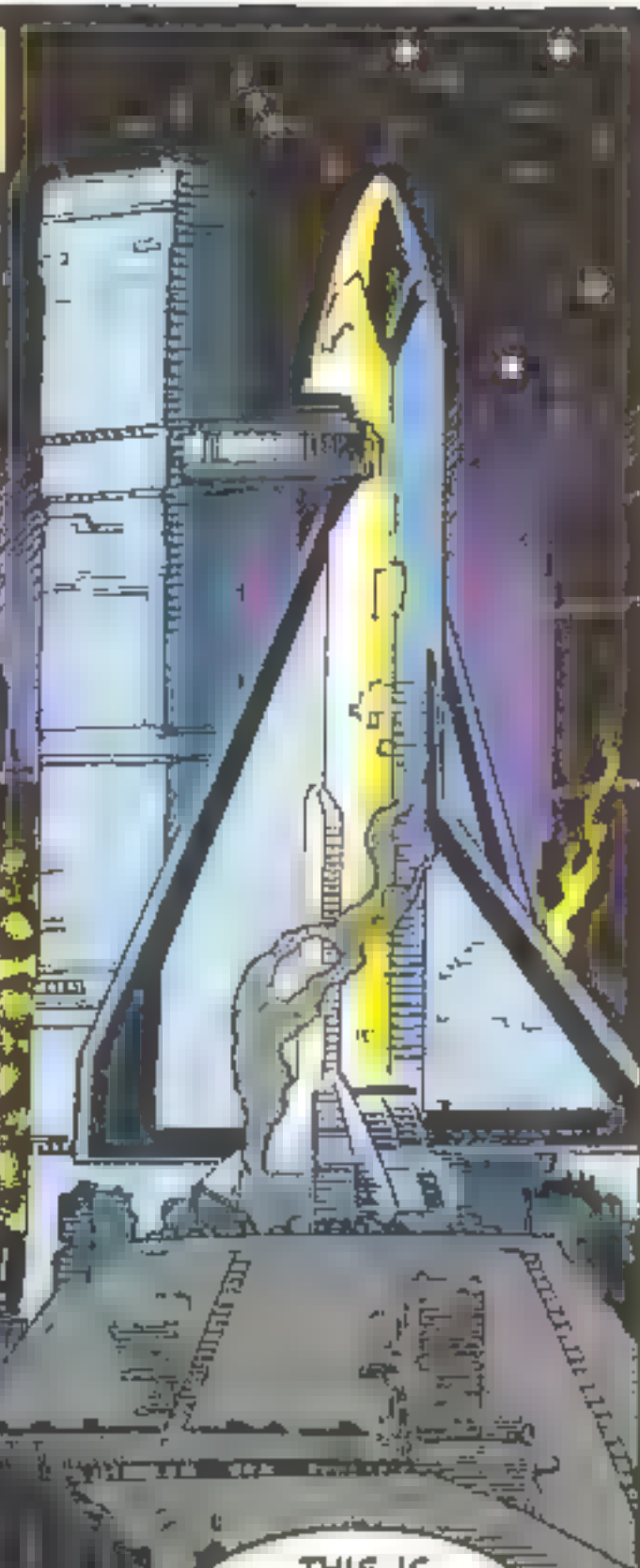
FRROOM





지금부터
시작합니다

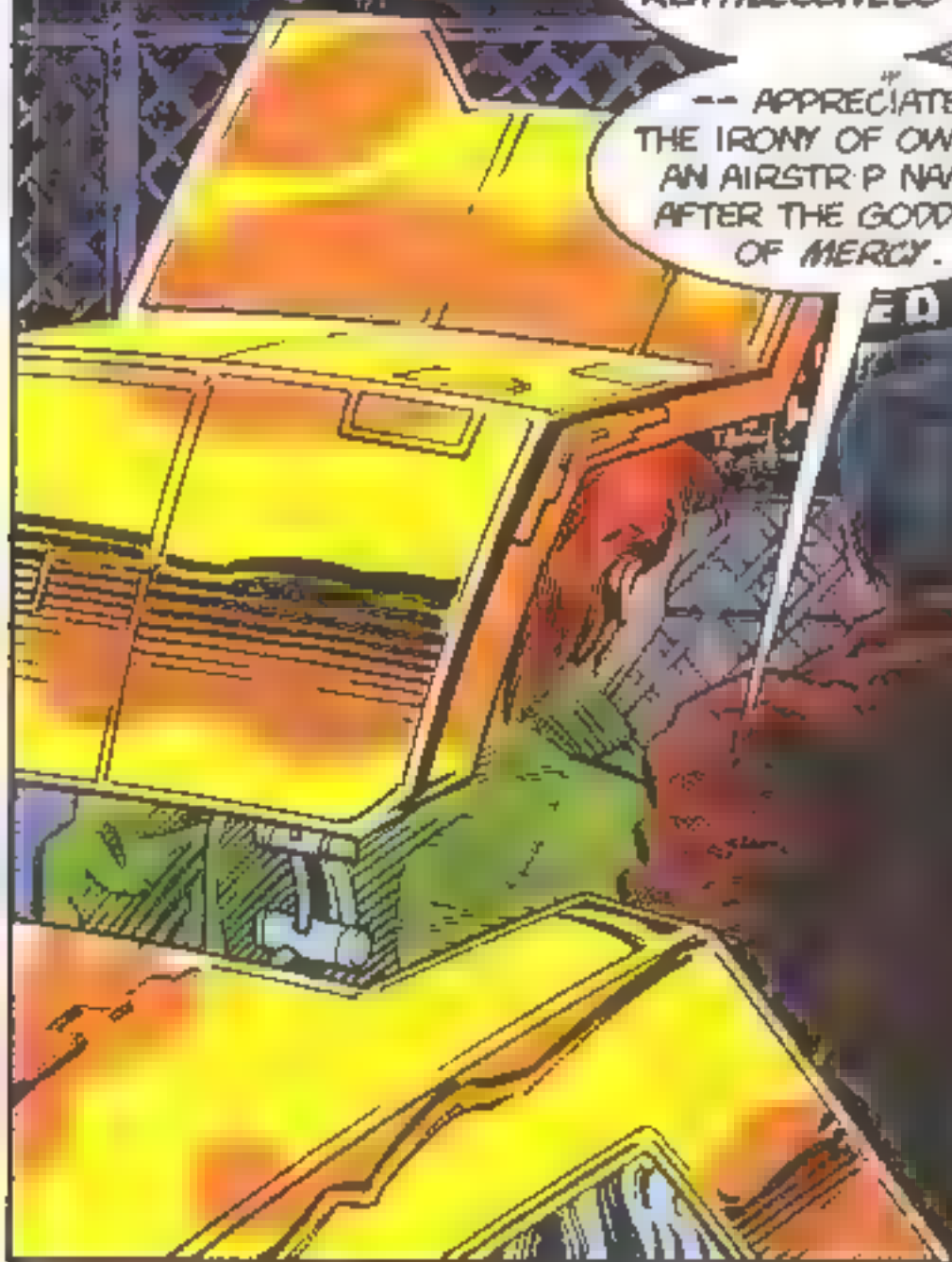
LANTAU, LARGEST OF
HONG KONG'S
OUTLYING ISLANDS—



THIS IS
KUANYIN AIR
BASE.

I AM
CERTAIN FENG
HUANG, WHO PRIDES
HERSELF ON HER
RUTHLESSNESS --

-- APPRECIATES
THE IRONY OF OWNING
AN AIRSTRIP NAMED
AFTER THE GODDESS
OF MERCY.



AND WE'RE
GOING TO HIJACK
THAT SHUTTLE?

FINDING KAZ
HAS BECOME MORE
COMPLICATED
THAN I EVER
DREAMED

A SMALL
TASK FOR ONE
WHO OVERTHREW
TIGER WYLDE

I WOULD NOT
HAVE BROUGHT YOU
IF I DIDN'T THINK YOU
COULD HELP YOUR
BROTHER.



TIGER WYLDE? THE
CYBORG? MORKOVKIN
IS IMPRESSED, PRETTY
GYPSY.

BUT TO
MORE IMPORTANT
MATTERS-- HOW DO WE
GET INSIDE?

PUT
THIS ON.

EACH
SUIT CONTAINS
AN ELECTRONIC
SIGNATURE
PLATE THAT THE
SECURITY
SYSTEM WILL
REGISTER AS A
REPAIR
WORKER.

PLUS THE MASK
SHOULD OBSCURE YOUR
OCCIDENTAL FACES.

STAY ALERT,
AND MOVE QUICKLY.
THE LAUNCH PAD IS
ALMOST FULLY
AUTOMATED.

ONCE
INSIDE, WE HAVE
ONLY TO DISPATCH THE
SHUTTLE'S SKELETON
CREW.

I DON'T
LIKE THIS.





YOU CAN REMOVE YOUR GEAR.

WE WILL BE IN FLIGHT BEFORE THE BASE VIDEO LOGS ARE REVIEWED, AND OUR PRESENCE IS DISCOVERED.

IF YOU WERE PART OF ALL THIS, WHY DID YOU LEAVE FENG HUANG?



IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES.

I REFUSED TO ACCEPT HER WORD AS LAW.



HI HO, KIDS! NICE DAY TO BE LAUNCHED INTO--

STAY BACK, FORTUNE--



-- SPACE

LEI FONG, NO!

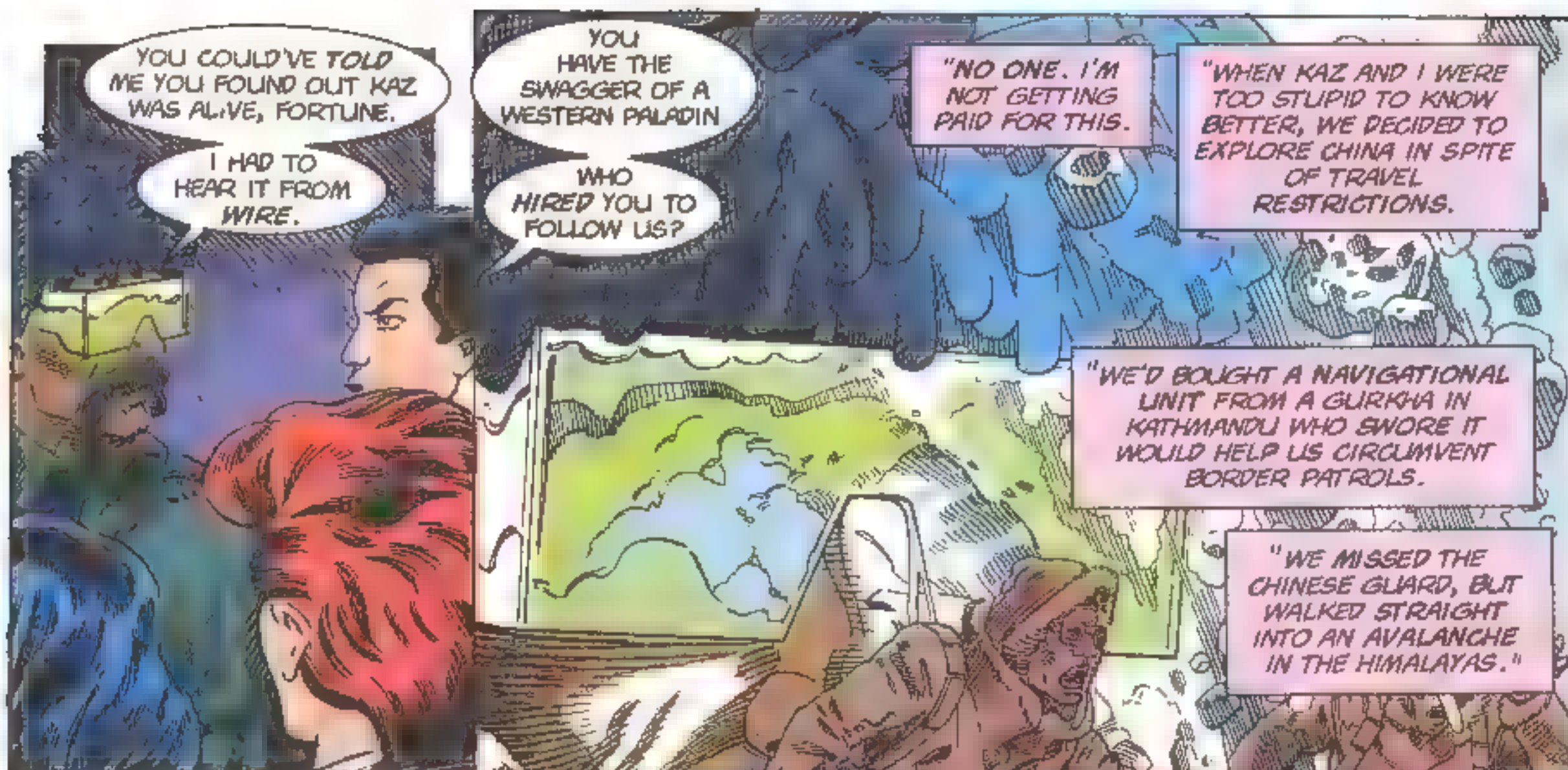


YOU KNOW THAT MAN?

LEI FONG, STOP. PLEASE.

POET'S A FRIEND--

-- ONE I CAN'T SEEM TO LOSE THESE DAYS.



YOU COULD'VE TOLD ME YOU FOUND OUT KAZ WAS ALIVE, FORTUNE.

I HAD TO HEAR IT FROM WIRE.

YOU HAVE THE SWAGGER OF A WESTERN PALADIN

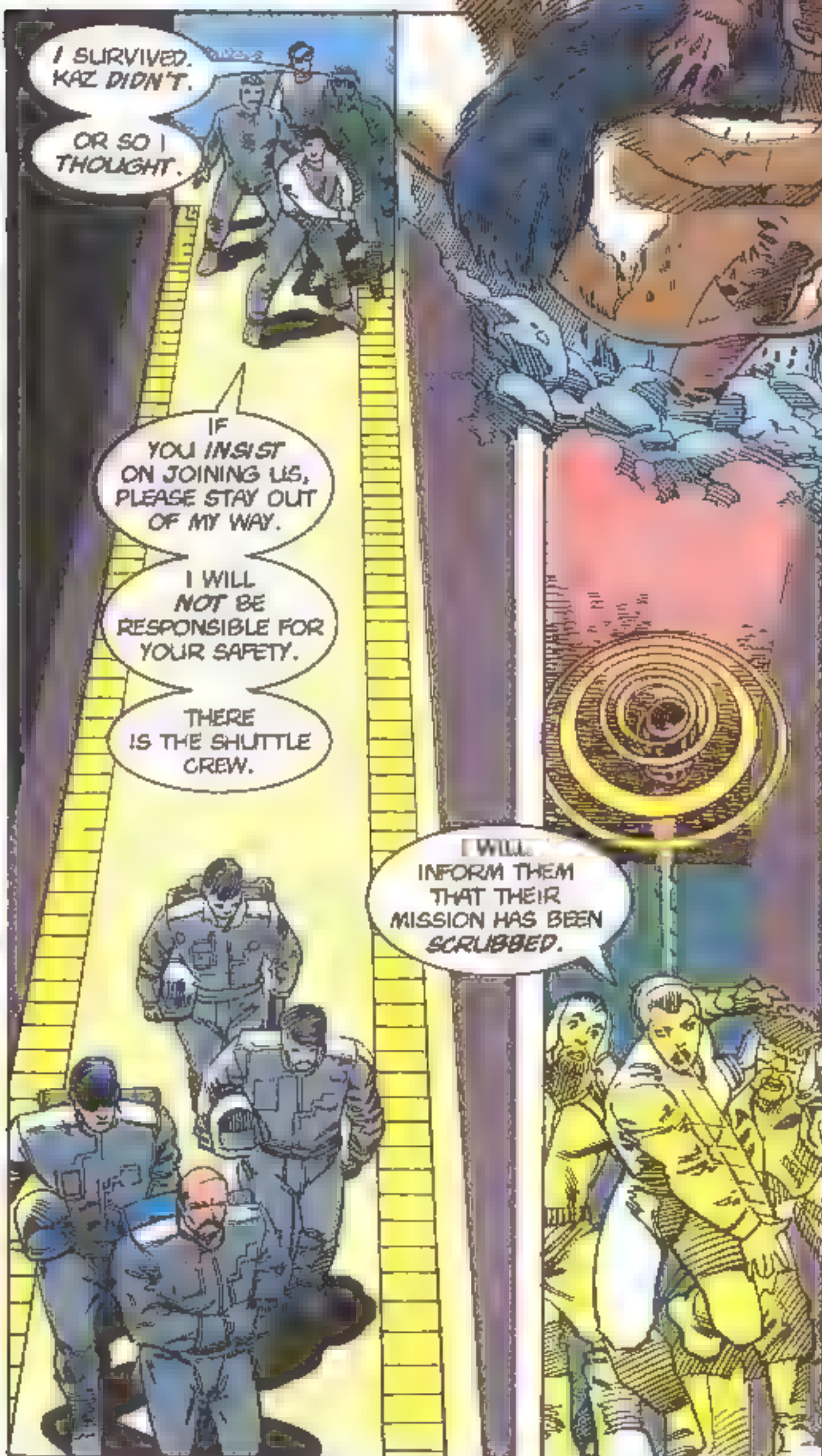
WHO HIRED YOU TO FOLLOW US?

"NO ONE. I'M NOT GETTING PAID FOR THIS.

"WHEN KAZ AND I WERE TOO STUPID TO KNOW BETTER, WE DECIDED TO EXPLORE CHINA IN SPITE OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS.

"WE'D BOUGHT A NAVIGATIONAL UNIT FROM A GURKHA IN KATHMANDU WHO SWORE IT WOULD HELP US CIRCUMVENT BORDER PATROLS.

"WE MISSED THE CHINESE GUARD, BUT WALKED STRAIGHT INTO AN AVALANCHE IN THE HIMALAYAS."



I SURVIVED. KAZ DIDN'T.

OR SO I THOUGHT.

IF YOU INSIST ON JOINING US, PLEASE STAY OUT OF MY WAY.

I WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY.

THERE IS THE SHUTTLE CREW.

I WILL INFORM THEM THAT THEIR MISSION HAS BEEN SCRUBBED.



WOOMF



ELEVEN HOURS LATER, THE SHUTTLE DOCKS AT THE CHIN SHAN PLATFORM, ORBITING ABOVE THE EARTH.

YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE NO POSSIBLE MEANS OF ESCAPE.

I REMEMBER NOW WHERE I KNOW YOU FROM, MORKOVKIN.

YOU WERE ONE OF THE RED SQUARES THAT STOLE THE EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES BOUND FOR HURRICANE-RAVAGED MICRONESIA TWO YEARS AGO.

I HELPED RETAKE THE SHIPMENT, BUT THE RINGLEADERS ESCAPED.

THE MORAL VICTORY IS YOURS THEN, AMERICAN. IT IS A SMALL ONE.

NOW WE MEET OUR HOST, AND REMEMBER, IF YOU TRY ANYTHING FOOLHARDY--

-- I WILL KILL YOU.

I UNDERESTIMATED FENG HUANG--

-- I ASSUMED HER INFLUENCE DID NOT REACH THE SMUGGLERS OF THE FREE RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

MY INFLUENCE EXTENDS EVERYWHERE, MY SISTER--

**FENG
HUANG!**

YOU AND YOUR
COMPANIONS HAVE
ARRIVED IN TIME FOR
A MOMENTOUS
OCCASION--

-- IN WHICH I
REAP THE *BENEFITS*
OF FIRST CONTACT
WITH A NEW ALIEN
RACE.

SAVOR
THESE COMING
MOMENTS, MY
GUESTS, FOR THEY
WILL BE YOUR
LAST.



"Heaven's net is indeed
vast. Though its meshes are
wide, it misses nothing."

—Lao-Tzu

NEXT: RELINION